IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Leendert Sonneveld, et al. Art Group: 3676

Examiner: Blake E. Michener

Serial No.: 10/578,990

Confirmation No: 5125

Filed: May 11, 2006

Docket No.: 2160.002500 (48.1559)

For: Apparatus and Method for Handling

Pipe

VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

January 4, 2010

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Va. 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is timely submitted in response to the Patent and Trademark Office Election Requirement Action mailed December 17, 2009, for which the shortened-statutory period for response is set to expire January 17, 2010. Consideration of the application in view of the following amendments and remarks is respectfully requested.

The Claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

Appl. No.: 10/578,990 Amdt. Dated January 4, 2010

Reply to Office Action/Restriction mailed December 17, 2009

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows: